



STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
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December 10, 2002

TO: Washington State Board of Health Members

FROM: Linda Lake, Board Chair

RE: LIKELY ISSUES OF BOARD INTEREST FOR 2003 SESSION

Background and Summary

In January 2001, the State Board of Health adopted Policy 2001-001. The policy creates a procedure for monitoring legislative issues during session. It also establishes processes for communication between Board members and the Legislature.

At its October 9 meeting, the Board engaged in discussions about how well this policy has been working. Some members expressed a desire for the Board be more proactive in discussing possible legislation before session starts so it can develop a sense of the Board on key issues. Positions that evolve from the discussion can guide members during session.

Accordingly, I asked staff to prepare a list of issues related to the Board's statutory authority and its priority work areas that are likely to emerge during the 2003 legislative session (attached). The list, which also provides brief background on each of these issues, is intended to be a starting point for a Board discussion of issues it wants to be involved in and positions it wants to take as a Board.

Recommended Board Action

None. The agenda item today is for discussion only. The Board may choose to adopt a consensus statement or other policy document at its January 8 meeting.

Attachments